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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POMEROY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 7, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EARL POMEROY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Shaken by the news of the sudden death of Congressman Paul Gillmor of Ohio and mindful also of the passing of former Members, the Honorable Jennifer Dunn and Charles Vanik, we turn to You, Lord God of the living and the dead.

In Your wisdom You called them and all deceased Members of this Chamber to serve their brothers and sisters in the backyards, fields, and streets of their districts, and yet represent them in this legislative body of the Nation.

Now called from this life, welcome them into Your presence, that they may enjoy the eternal justice and peace they sought here on Earth. Reward their public service with Your profound mercy and eternal rest. Comfort their families in this time of sorrow and loss.

God of faithfulness, enable all these who respectfully mourn now to press on with renewed faith and seek Your kingdom, trusting in Your loving guidance and the promise of eternal reward, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCHWARTZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute requests per side.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. As the architect of one of the first children's health plans in the country, I have seen firsthand the success of these public-private, Federal-State partnerships. I am proud of our work here in Congress to make affordable health coverage available to an additional 5 million American children, while also protecting the health needs of our sense.

The Democratic Congress understands the health care challenges facing our Nation's working families. We heard their need and we responded. We passed a plan to expand access to qual-

ity, affordable health care for our Nation's children, while ensuring that our seniors receive the care that they have been promised.

It is unacceptable that 47 million Americans, including 9 million children, do not have access to affordable health coverage. It is unacceptable that American seniors are facing limits in access to doctors they trust and treatments they need, and it is unacceptable that President Bush and his allies in Congress are comfortable with that status quo.

It is time to act, and Congress has. We call on the President to stop working against us as we move to ensure health care for America's children.

BORDER SECURITY AND THE ALTAR OF GREED

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, it appears that in spite of Federal law that requires close inspection of vehicles and identification of people entering the United States, in the City of El Paso, Texas, border and Customs officials have been ordered to ignore some inspections. This Get-to-America-Quick plan requires that if pedestrian lines get too long, only 30 percent of them are to be questioned. If vehicular traffic waiting time is too long, then inspectors are to ignore some basic inspections for drugs and radioactive material.

According to Sarah Carter of the Washington Times, in some cases only every fifth driver and his documents are verified, all this in the name of letting more foreign nationals into the United States faster.

Why? Well, it seems some businesses are complaining the delays hurt their profits. So Federal bureaucrats are making border inspection officers ignore security, all in the name of the almighty dollar, or shall I say peso.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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